

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL
OF COPIES OF TRANSLATION
OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT
ON PATENTABILITY
(CHAPTER I OR CHAPTER II
OF THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY)
(PCT Rules 44bis.3(c) and 72.2)

Date of mailing (day/month/year)
03 August 2006 (03.08.2006)

To:

NAKAMURA, Tomoyuki
c/o Miyoshi International Patent Office
Toranomon Kohoku Tower
2-8, Toranomon 1-chome
Minato-ku, Tokyo 105-0001
JAPON

Applicant's or agent's file reference
JSONY-632PCT

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION

International application No.
PCT/JP2004/015861

International filing date (day/month/year)
20 October 2004 (20.10.2004)

Applicant

SONY CORPORATION et al

1. Transmittal of the translation to the applicant.



The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I).



The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).

2. Transmittal of the copy of the translation to the designated or elected Offices.

The International Bureau notifies the applicant that copies of that translation have been transmitted to the following designated or elected Offices requiring such translation:

None

The following designated or elected Offices, having waived the requirement for such a transmittal at this time, will receive copies of that translation from the International Bureau only upon their request:

AE, AG, AL, AM, AP, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EA, EC, EE, EG, EP, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OA, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW

3. Reminder regarding translation into (one of) the official language(s) of the elected Office(s).

The applicant is reminded that, where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).

It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned within the applicable time limit (Rule 74.1). See Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide for further details.

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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY
PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
 (Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44bis)

Applicant's or agent's file reference JSONY-832PCT	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See item 4 below
International application No. PCT/JP2004/015861	International filing date (day/month/year) 20 October 2004 (20.10.2004)	Priority date (day/month/year) 24 October 2003 (24.10.2003)	
International Patent Classification (8th edition unless older edition indicated) See relevant information in Form PCT/ISA/237			
Applicant SONY CORPORATION			

1. This international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) is issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the International Searching Authority under Rule 44 bis.1(a).

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.

In the attached sheets, any reference to the written opinion of the International Searching Authority should be read as a reference to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) instead.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I	Basis of the report
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II	Priority
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application

4. The International Bureau will communicate this report to designated Offices in accordance with Rules 44bis.3(c) and 93bis.1 but not, except where the applicant makes an express request under Article 23(3), before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date (Rule 44bis.2).

Date of issuance of this report 24 July 2006 (24.07.2006)	
The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombelettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No. +41 22 338 82 70	Authorized officer Masashi Honda e-mail: pt08@wipo.int

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:

TRANSLATION

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Applicant's or agent's file reference JSONY-632PCT		Date of mailing (day/month/year)
International application No. PCT/JP2004/015861	International filing date (day/month/year) 20.10.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 24.10.2003
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC		
Applicant SONY CORPORATION		

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I	Basis of the opinion
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II	Priority
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability, citations and explanations supporting such statement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application
2. FURTHER ACTION		
<p>If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1(b)(i) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.</p> <p>If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.</p> <p>For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.</p>		
3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.		

Name and mailing address of the ISA/JPO	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITYInternational application No.
PCT/JP2004/015861

Box No. I	Basis of this opinion
<p>1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language: _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b)).</p>	
<p>2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. type of material <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> a sequence listing <input type="checkbox"/> table(s) related to the sequence listing b. format of material <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> in written format <input type="checkbox"/> in computer readable form c. time of filing/furnishing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> contained in the international application as filed. <input type="checkbox"/> filed together with the international application in computer readable form. <input type="checkbox"/> furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search. 	
<p>3. <input type="checkbox"/> In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.</p>	
<p>4. Additional comments:</p> <p> </p> <p> </p>	

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY			International application No. PCT/JP2004/015861
Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43(b) (1)(a) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement			
1. Statement			
Novelty (N)	Claims	1-18	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims		YES
	Claims	1-18	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-18	YES
	Claims		NO
2. Citations and explanations:			
Document 1: JP 10-78618 A (Fuji Photo Film Co., Ltd.), 24 March 1998 & US 5974401 A			
Document 2: JP 11-185034 A (Casio Computer Co., Ltd.), 09 July 1999 (Family: none)			
Document 3: Photoshop 6.0 Technical Bible, Softbank Publishing Inc., First edition, 25 January 2001, pp. 67-68			
Discussion			
Document 1 pertains to a digital print ordering system that uses a network such as the Internet, etc., and says a user uses image processing and ordering software, and image data, after having image processing such as gamma correction applied, is sent to a printer (paragraphs 0044-0045). It also suggests adding image correction processing instruction data as print order data and having image correction processing done by an operator at the printer (paragraph 0062).			
A technical means that displays image data, having it contrasted with image data before image processing and the details of a plurality of various corrections, respectively, as contrastive thumbnails and performs the corresponding image processing on the relevant image data according to which thumbnail is selected by a user is well-known user interface art, as described in document 2 and document 3. Employing this as a user interface for entering image correction processing instruction data added to print order data in the system described in document 1 could easily be conceived by a person skilled in the art.			
Therefore the inventions of claims 1-18 do not involve an inventive step on account of documents 1-3.			